

Did we get it wrong?

Yellowknifer is committed to getting facts and names right. With that goes a commitment to acknowledge mistakes and run corrections. If you spot an error in *Yellowknifer*, call 873-4031 and ask to speak to an editor, or email editorial@nns.com. We'll get a correction or clarification in as soon as we can.

NEWS Briefs

Flu shot clinics upcoming

The time to organize your life around immunization returns.

According to the NWT health service, free walk-in seasonal flu clinics are scheduled as follows:

Nov. 2 – 1-6 p.m. in the Multiplex gym

Nov. 6-8 – 1-6 p.m. at Northern United Place

Nov. 16 and 30 – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Yellowknife Co-Op, 321 Old Airport Road.

You don't need to make an appointment, and there's no cost to receive a flu vaccine shot.

Phone the YK Public Health Unit at 867-767-9120 or visit www.nthssa.ca for more information.

– Craig Gilbert

'Theatre' planned for Range Lake

It looks like Yellowknife will be getting a new theatre, but it won't be competing with Capitol Theatre.

On Oct. 3 the city's development officer approved a permit for a "commercial entertainment" development at 480 Range Lake Rd.

That commercial development currently holds a BMO Bank branch, a Jiffy Lube and the Centre Ice Plaza, housing commercial establishments such as Luluz Market.

The City of Yellowknife has confirmed that the permit is for a "movie theatre/visual 360-degree dome experience" and will be primarily aimed at a tourist audience.

The proposed development will be able to seat 20 to 25 people and will be operating within the regular hours of the Centre Ice Plaza.

The corner commercial space is owned by Polar Developments Ltd., which also has title over residential developments in town including the Watermark Tower and the Anderson Thomson Tower.

Yellowknifer reached out to Polar Developments LTD but did not hear back by press time.

– Brett McGarry

Shop YK passport is back

The city's campaign getting residents to shop locally returned on Oct. 21 courtesy of the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the city.

Join in for a chance to win \$3,000 in cash prizes. Collect a stamp on your shopping passport every time you spend at least \$20 at participating businesses and once you have 30, you are entered into a raffle draw.

The campaign ends on Dec. 2 with the grand prize being awarded on Dec. 6.

More than 50 businesses are taking part.

– Brett McGarry

Pumpkin lane returns

The City of Yellowknife is once again inviting residents to participate in Yellowknife's Annual Pumpkin Lane.

Running Nov. 1-3, the public is encouraged to bring their carved pumpkins down to the McMahon Frame Lake Trail by Matonabee Street.

The pumpkins will be lit each evening at about 5 p.m. On the final night, Sunday November 3, residents are invited to join us to help light the Jack O' Lanterns and enjoy the glow with some hot chocolate.

– Brett McGarry

City changes two bus stops

The City of Yellowknife will be making changes to two bus stops for rider convenience.

On Route C, there will be a new bus shelter located at the intersection of Sikyea Tili and She La in Ndilo. On Route B, a bus stop at 44th Street and Franklin Avenue to 45th Street and Franklin Avenue. These changes stem for requests made months ago by city council.

– Brett McGarry



photo courtesy of Dominion Diamond Corporation

Dominion Diamond's Ekati Mine outside Yellowknife. A bond issued by its parent company has been deemed a risk by credit ratings company Moody's Investors Service.

Moody's downgrades bond connected to Dominion

The bond, with a 7.125 per cent yield, has lost half its value

by Derek Neary
Northern News Services

A \$550-million bond issued through an entity related to Dominion Diamond Mines has been downgraded multiple times and has reached a level that ratings agency Moody's deems as "of poor standing" and is "subject to very high credit risk."

Northwest Acquisitions ULC, controlled by the Washington Group, issued the bond two years ago. Moody's ratings of the fixed-income security have fallen from Ba3, outlook stable, to Caa1, outlook negative.

The bond, which has lost 48.8 per cent of its value over the past year, has an interest rate of 7.125 per cent. It's due to mature on Nov. 1, 2022.

Dominion Diamond Mines, the majority owner of the Ekati diamond mine, which also has a 40 per cent stake in the Diavik diamond mine, was purchased by the Wash-

ington Group in 2017.

Dominion Diamond Mines put expansion of the Jay pipe on hold in May 2018 as the company studies ways to optimize the project's economics. The Jay pipe would help extend the life of the mine by several years. Ekati, which began production in 1998, employs close to 1,600 people, including contractors.

A Dominion Diamond Mines spokesperson told *Northern News Services* earlier this month that the project "is still under review at this time."

No comment from the mining company was forthcoming on Monday in regards to the bond's performance.

Paul Zimmisky, an independent diamond industry analyst based in New York, acknowledged that Dominion has been "quite tight lipped about their future plans with Ekati."

"Both Ekati and Diavik have been very

profitable mines over their life, the question becomes is it worth investing in expansion projects that are not as economically robust as the original ore bodies at a time when future diamond prices are especially difficult to predict," Zimmisky stated.

De Beers' sales data from Oct. 3 revealed a 39 per cent decrease in sales compared to a year earlier. De Beers is the owner of the Gahcho Kue, the third diamond mine operating in the NWT.

"There has been a global oversupply of diamonds for the last 18 months or so which has put pressure on market prices," said Zimmisky. "In Canada's North, diamond mines tend to be very capital intensive compared to other parts of the world. These mines provide a lot of leverage to diamond prices and can be very profitable when diamond prices are at an economic level, however, softer prices can of course lead to an opposite effect."

ENR probing leashed bear found scavenged outside city

Officials puzzled by corpse found on Hwy 3 wearing red leash

by Nick Pearce
Northern News Services

Environment and Natural Resource officers are asking for public assistance after finding a dead bear wearing a red dog leash on Highway 3 this weekend.

Found in a ditch roughly 12 kilometres out of the city on Saturday afternoon, the bear was largely picked over. According to an ENR Facebook post, the "dead bear ... had been heavily scavenged by birds and other wildlife" and was wrapped in a tan canvas tarp.

"ENR is seeking the public's assistance to locate the person or people responsible. Under the Wildlife Act, it is illegal to waste, destroy or abandon

a wild animal such as a black bear," the post stated.

In an email response ENR spokesperson Joslyn Oosenbrug said it appeared like the bear was moved the location.

"This is based on the dog leash being around its neck and the fact that it was wrapped in a tarp. After gathering evidence, ENR officers disposed of the bear. We have not received any information from the public as of yet," she said.

ENR wasn't immediately available for comment. Anyone with knowledge of the case is asked to phone the ENR North Slave Regional Office at 1-867-767-9238 ext. 53258, or the toll-free number at 1-866-762-2437.



Photo courtesy of Environment and Natural Resources

A scavenged bear corpse was found near Highway 3, 12 km outside Yellowknife. Environment officials are investigating.